

JENNY A. DURKAN

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BIOGRAPHY

Jenny Durkan, a Seattle native, has built a reputation both as a “lawyer’s lawyer” and as a civic leader. As a lawyer, she is known not just for her successes in difficult litigation, but also for her role as counselor to a broad range of clients. She has been recognized as one of the premiere trial attorneys in the United States. Active in both the state and federal bars, Durkan served a three year term on the Washington State Board of Governors. She also recently concluded a three year term as Lawyer Representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, and moderated a seminar panel on military justice and the Guantanamo tribunals.

Durkan is known for her ability to forge consensus on difficult issues. Over the past eleven years, she has served as a member or co-chair of the bi-partisan federal judicial merit selection committees. Washington has consistently avoided the contentious process experienced in other districts regarding federal court vacancies. This highly successful bi-partisan process has led to the selection and confirmation of seven U.S. District Court Judges and facilitated the appointment and confirmation of two Circuit Court judges.

Durkan also has been tapped to provide leadership on a number of challenging civic issues, from police oversight to consumer privacy. She was a founding Board Member for the Seattle Police Foundation, which seeks to improve relations between the police department and the community. She was also a founding Board Member of the Center for Women and Democracy which promotes and fosters leadership in business and government. Through the Center, Durkan traveled to Morocco to train women candidates running for elected office, in an historic election that created opportunities for women for the first time in that country.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Over twenty years experience in civil, criminal and regulatory matters
- Nationally recognized as top trial and litigation attorney
- Frequent CLE lecturer and former law school instructor
- A lifetime of working in and around government and the political process
- Proven leadership on civic issues, consumer privacy and police oversight
- Organized and decisive, but also a great team player
- Ability to work with people with diverse backgrounds and views

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Jenny A. Durkan (1997 – Present)

Counsel clients on varied legal, business and public policy issues. Broad litigation practice, including wrongful death, white collar criminal defense, commercial litigation, campaign finance, and state ethics/election law issues. Clients include individuals and businesses involved in serious litigation, regulatory issues or significant commercial matters. Served as trial counsel on recount and election contest litigation defending the election of the Washington State Governor.

Schroeter, Goldmark and Bender (1991 – 1994, 1996 – 1997)

Litigation practice, focused primarily on criminal defense (state and federal) and civil trial work. This ranged from wrongful death to commercial disputes. Experience also included representing clients regarding campaign finance and state ethics laws.

D. Garvey Corporation (1995 – 1996)

DGC was a start-up telecom project management company that contracted with various wireless carriers to build communication networks throughout the United States and abroad. Served as counsel and Executive Vice President. Advised the company on the range of issues facing a start-up corporation, including financing, human resources, contract negotiations, contract disputes and litigation.

Executive Counsel to the Governor (1994 – 1995)

Served as Executive Counsel to Washington State Governor Mike Lowry, advising him on the full range of issues coming before his office. Experience included working with agency heads, legislative leaders, constituent groups, the communications team and the press. Duties also included helping to manage “fires” that government and politics tend to generate on a regular basis. On a given day, issues ranged from a decision regarding the importation of nuclear waste, to the regulation of credit unions, to the best way to reduce public welfare caseloads.

Williams & Connolly (Washington, D.C.) (1987 – 1991)

Worked as an associate on a variety of litigation matters, including white collar criminal defense, SEC enforcement actions, and parallel civil matters (including government suspension and disbarment). Experience also included commercial litigation and occasional representation of newspaper reporters seeking to keep sources confidential. Cases involved representation in state and federal courts throughout the United States.

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 1985

Various activities and honors; Order of the Barristers and Moot Court Honor Board

B.A. English (with honors), University of Notre Dame, 1980

Club and intramural sport teams; School of Irish Studies, Dublin Ireland (1978 – 79)

REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

Adjunct Instructor, University of Washington Law School

Trial Advocacy Instructor for 2L and 3L classes (1992-2001, excluding 1994)

Board of Governors, Washington State Bar Association (1999 – 2002)

Lawyer Representative, 9th Circuit Judicial Conference

From 2005 to 2008, served as a representative from the Western District of Washington.

CLE Instructor, Lecturer and Panel Member

Frequent CLE instructor or panelist, including:

- Military Justice, Federal Bar Association (May 2008)
- Election Law, American Constitution Society, Puget Sound (June 2008)
- Money and Politics in Judicial Elections, The Federalist Society (February 2007)
- Bench Bar Conference, the Future of the Courts (November 2006)
- Judicial Independence and Election of Judges, American Constitution Society (July 2006)
- Trial Stars, Washington State Trial Lawyers (2005, 2003 and 2002)

Member, Washington State and District of Columbia Bars

Also admitted to various federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

REPRESENTATIVE POLITICAL AND CIVIC EXPERIENCE

Founding Board Member, Center for Women & Democracy

Originally affiliated with the University of Washington, the CWD is a non-profit founded to promote women's participation in government both locally and globally. The Center created a leadership training program for young women, has sponsored global business and leadership trips to a variety of countries, hosts a series of lectures on matters of civic import and has provided political training to woman candidates in emerging and developing democracies.

Political Trainer, Morocco National Elections

Participated in a 2002 joint program of National Democratic Institute and the Center for Women and Democracy. The King of Morocco implemented laws requiring a significant increase in the number of women in Parliament, an unprecedented step in a primarily Islamic country. Teams traveled to Morocco to train a broad array of women candidates and political parties to help them transition to the new model.

Chair, Attorney General's Task Force on Consumer Privacy

The task force (active 1999-2000) included consumers and members of the business community. It held several public hearings on the issue of privacy, fraud and identity theft. The resulting proposed legislation included identity theft provisions that served as a model for subsequent state and national legislation.

Co-chair, Bi-Partisan United States Judicial Merit Selection Committees

For the Western District of Washington, this process emerged from an agreement by Washington's U.S. Senators and the White House to facilitate judicial confirmations. During my tenure on the Selection Committee as either Co-Chair or Member, seven candidates for U.S. District Court judgeships and two for Circuit Court judgeships were confirmed to the bench with bi-partisan Senate support.

Member, Seattle Police Accountability Review Board

Appointed by Mayor Greg Nickels in 2008, this "blue ribbon" panel was formed after public controversy arose relating to alleged police misconduct and the perceived failure of the Seattle Police Department oversight entities to adequately investigate and sanction that misconduct. The committee's recommendations were accepted and adopted into law.

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REPRESENTATIVE POLITICAL AND CIVIC EXPERIENCE, continued

Member, Citizens' Review Panel

Appointed by Mayor Paul Schell in 1999, this five member committee was created to address problems relating to the Seattle Police Department's Internal Affairs division. These problems included the failure to investigate the theft of several thousand dollars by a homicide detective from the scene of a crime. The panel's work resulted in a new system of civilian oversight for the police department. The model was the first of its kind in the nation.

First Citizen Observer, Seattle Police Department Firearms Review Board

Served for three years, 1997 - 2000. After controversial police shootings, a new law required the Seattle Police Department to have a citizen observer present during its internal shooting review proceedings. The police unions filed a legal challenge to the creation of the position. While the union challenge was pending, I continued to serve and sat on some particularly controversial shooting reviews. I was able to help build support and trust within both the department and the community for the position.

Founding Board Member, Seattle Police Foundation

This non-profit organization was founded to foster better relationships between the Seattle community and the police department. While the Board carried my name for a number of years, I was only active in its initial year 2002.

Washington State Co-Chair, John Edwards for President, 2004 and 2008

Worked with national political and fundraising teams to coordinate efforts in Washington, spoke on behalf of the campaign and introduced the Senator at events.

Member, Credentials Committee, 2008 Democratic Convention

Served as Obama for America Appointee for Washington State, and participated in vote resolving status of Michigan and Florida delegates.

Voter Protection Lawyer and Boiler Room Counsel, 2008 and 2006

Counsel, Gregoire for Governor, 2004 and 2008

Provided legal counsel to the campaigns on a variety of issues, ranging from personnel matters to campaign finance.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- “Super Lawyer,” *Washington Law & Politics*, selected each year, 1999 - 2009
- “Top 100 Irish Lawyers in America,” *Irish American Magazine*, November 2008
- “Top Business Lawyers,” *Seattle Business Monthly*, April 2006
- “League of Justice: Washington’s Most Amazing Attorneys,” *Seattle CEO Magazine*, March 2006
- Warren G. Magnuson “Maggie” Award (awarded by Washington State Democrats), Outstanding Accomplishment 2005
- Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle, Spirit Award 2005
- Lambda Legal Defense Fund Seattle, Leadership Award 2003
- *Who’s Who in American Law* (1992 – 1993, 7th ed.), and (1990 – 1991, 6th ed.)
- *Who’s Who of Emerging Leaders in America* (1991 – 1992, 3rd ed.)

SELECTED MEDIA PUBLICATIONS AND REFERENCES

- “Justice is Non-Partisan,” by Jenny A. Durkan, *The Seattle Times*, 5 October 2007, <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/opinion/2003926233_durkan05.html>
- “True Justice Transcends Politics.” by Jenny A. Durkan and J. Vander Stoep, *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 14 June 2006, <http://seattlepi.nwsources.com/opinion/273781_selectjudge14.html>
- “Jenny Durkan, Gregoire’s Staunch Ally,” *The Seattle Times*, 11 February 2005, <http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2002177251_durkan11m.html>
- “A Shining Star in Dark Election Trial,” *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 18 June 2005, <http://seattlepi.nwsources.com/local/229092_durkan18.html>
- “Sisters in Law,” *Washington Law & Politics*, August 2001 (cover article on Jenny and sister Ryan Durkan)
- “Honor The Greatest Generation With New Commitment to Civic and Civil Life,” by Jenny A. Durkan, *The Seattle Times*, 2 May 2005, <<http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20040502&slug=durkan02>>

SELECTED MEDIA PUBLICATIONS AND REFERENCES, continued

- “A Better Way to Pick Judges”, by Jenny A. Durkan and Mike McKay, *The Seattle Times*, 6 June 2003, <<http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20030626&slug=durkanmckay26>>
- “That is What Happens When You Go It Alone”, by Jenny A. Durkan, *The Seattle Times*, 31 March 2003, <http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20030331&slug=jenny31>